New Address: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701

2/20/68

Dear Nancy,

Delay in answering yours of 1/29 is attributable to my absence on a west-coast trip. I will hand-deliver the enclosed Xerox of your memo within a week. I expect the right man from that office by then. I will deliver the message by phone tonight.

The usual clogging up after an absence is aggravated by my return-home greeting-my long-suffering wife badly sprained her ankle. So I answer your letter briefly.

You are not alone in your suspicions about Marina and Ruth (and all those who have conveyed it to me are women). If you can put it more explicitly on paper I'll send it to the others for their comment and/or additions. Include references to possible codes, which I'll deliver elsewhere. I expect someone from Jims office to be here all or most of the week of 2/26 and can then hand-deliver.

Your analysis of the underlying factors is at variance with any reasonable interpretation of "cui bono" as the Soviets would have seen it. While there is, without doubt, the kind of mutual penetration you suggest, there is never this kind of collaboration and it is never on a large enough scale for either to have carried out this kind of operation and pinned it on the other, save by a frameup. This one was of a different character. The Soviets were not about to frame themselves. I spent much time and though before reaching the belief I now hold. I considered all possibilities that suggested themselves and that others suggested. It is the political orientation of your "basic thesis" that is untenable. The last thing in the world the Soviets wanted was Kennedy's murder, or his disappearance from any reason.

Best regards,